

Bulletin 4: Sleeping at your host's home

What can we offer in our regions?

This week, we will present you couchsurfing.



<http://www.viamichelin.de/tpl/mag6/art200905/img/tour-visit-couchsurfing-Paris-0.jpg>

Couchsurfing – what is it?

Couchsurfing is a worldwide acting network that offers low-cost travel experiences to especially young people. Hereby, travelers spend one or several nights at the host's home free, whereat the sleeping berth might vary from a couch, bed, hammock etc. However, it is a good opportunity to meet local people, to spend time with them and getting in contact to different cultures and lifestyles.



Source: <http://ka-mpus.extrahertz.de/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/couchsurfer-picture-kleiner2-199x300.jpg>

Central element is the couchsurfing website that connects guests with hosts from all over the world. To use the couchsurfing network as a traveler or to host a couchsurfer at your own home, you have to register on couchsurfing.org. Hereby, it is up to you if you only want to give a free guided city tour or host a couchsurfer for one or several nights. On your online profile, you can add pictures of you as well as of the accommodation and it is also possible to explain your preferences towards couchsurfer. Couchsurfing is a special way of travelling that enables you to have unique and unforgettable experiences and lets you discover the region or city from a local point of view.

Adaption of couchsurfing to CULTrips

Couchsurfing addresses CULTrips target group of the unconventional discoverer. It represents a low-budget-travel-opportunity for young and individual tourists to discover a city or region. Furthermore, it allows travelers to share unique experiences with locals and gets to know local lifestyle and culture.

To this effect, the concept of couchsurfing corresponds with the philosophy of CULTrips and could be partly translated in the CULTrips regions.

If you want to get an impression of what couchsurfing is about please refer to this short movie: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DumonlDwI0>

BBC news did also a short report about couchsurfing: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbcvVkiUZQY>

If you want to become a member of the couchsurfing network contact the following link and register: <http://www.couchsurfing.org/>

Please refer to the following links to get more information about couchsurfing on twitter and facebook:

<http://twitter.com/couchsurfing>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/CouchSurfing/7808849996>

Here you can find more information about other travel-communities that act in the same way as couchsurfing.com does:

<http://www.bewelcome.org/>

<http://www.hospitalityclub.org/>